United Nations S/2006/820

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 October 2006

Original: English

Letter dated 16 October 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to my letter of 3 November 2005 (S/2005/707), in which I informed the Security Council of the lack of financial contributions to support the activities of the High Representative for the elections in Côte d'Ivoire.

The voluntary contributions received so far are insufficient to maintain the important functions entrusted to the High Representative by Security Council resolution 1603 (2005). Despite generous contributions received from the European Commission, France, Norway, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during 2006, the efforts of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through a special project, to support the High Representative and his office have not generated enough funds to enable the office to become fully operational. Moreover, the experience of the past several months has demonstrated that the UNDP project mechanism has not been effective to deal with the important aspects of the work of the High Representative. In particular, it cannot adequately respond to the critical needs of the High Representative in the area of security, especially his close protection, which, for obvious reasons, cannot be handled by local security firms. As a result of these deficiencies, the High Representative is obliged to spend a considerable amount of time on fund-raising activities, to the detriment of his main functions.

In view of the above, and considering the crucial role played by the High Representative in the peace process, and as mentioned in my eighth report on the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (S/2006/222), it is my intention to approach the General Assembly to seek its approval for the use of assessed contributions to fund the office of the High Representative.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

06-57584 (E) 181006